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## **Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Grant Program For 2018 Now Open**

Applications due June 20,2018

Sacramento, CA – Today, the California Natural Resources Agency announced applications are being accepted for the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program (EEM) 2018 grant cycle. The program offers grants to local, state, and federal governmental agencies as well as nonprofit organizations for projects to mitigate environmental impacts caused by new or modified transportation facilities. Grants are generally limited to \$500,000 for development projects and up to \$1 million for acquisition projects.

The EEM guidelines, application and forms can be found at <a href="http://resources.ca.gov/grants/environmental-enhancement-and-mitigation-eem/">http://resources.ca.gov/grants/environmental-enhancement-and-mitigation-eem/</a>. Applications for the 2018 grant cycle must be submitted through the California Natural Resources Agency's System for Online Application Review (SOAR) by Wednesday, June 20, 2018.

Grants are given in three categories:

- Urban Forestry Projects designed to offset vehicular emissions of carbon dioxide.
- Resource Lands Projects for the acquisition or enhancement of resource lands to mitigate the loss
  of, or the detriment to, resource lands lying within or near the right-of-way acquired for the
  transportation improvements.
- **Mitigation Projects Beyond the Scope of the Lead Agency –** Projects responsible for assessing the environmental impact of the proposed transportation improvement.

The Natural Resources Agency will submit a list of recommended projects to the California Transportation Commission for funding consideration in February 2019. It is anticipated that the Transportation Commission will give approval for projects in March 2019.

Hardcopies of the application are available from the Natural Resources Agency, 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311, Sacramento, CA 95814, or by contacting the EEM Coordinator at (916) 653-2812 or at <a href="mailto:eemcoordinator@resources.ca.gov">eemcoordinator@resources.ca.gov</a>.